

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

WILMINGTON, N. C.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1868.

FOR PRESIDENT:
HORATIO SEYMOUR,
OF NEW YORK.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT:
GEN. FRANK P. BLAIR,
OF MISSOURI.

The New York World puts the case neatly, thus: "Tennessee is reconstructed. Tennessee is bankrupt. Can't meet her July interest. And wants troops. Can't be carried for GRANT without 'em. Let 'us have peace."

Allen and Sedition Laws.

It is almost impossible to keep pace with the acts of tyranny by which the Radicals of this State are attempting to plunge our people into riot and bloodshed. Having by the power of Federal bayonets seized the control of North Carolina, they will endeavor to seal their possession at the expense of the prosperity of the State and in the life-blood of its best citizens. The work of the Legislature is entirely devoted to establishing new offices with large salaries, and creating unheard of offences under heavy pains and penalties, and arming one portion of the population against the other. We do not see the passage of laws looking to a just, equitable and economical government; we see nothing intended to develop and promote the resources of the State; nothing to add to its wealth; nothing to provide the means necessary to meet its increasing expenses; nothing to promote agriculture, commerce, immigration and internal improvements; nothing to foster the natural advantages in which North Carolina is so rich, and which, if properly developed, would make her great and prosperous; in short, nothing is done in the interest of industry, quiet, social order, prosperity and peace, and everything for ill-will, confusion, internal disorders, ruin and war—nothing for North Carolina, but everything for the Radical party. Tyrannical and oppressive police bills are followed by sedition laws. Crimes are established, punishments adjudged, and offices, executive and judicial, are created to suit the purposes of party. In every way the most odious and offensive distinctions are drawn between different portions of the people of the State, seemingly with a view to create discord and turmoil.

If we are to judge by the acts of the present Legislature, North Carolina has no enemies more to be feared and provided against than those of her citizens most distinguished for their intelligence, virtue and wealth—none who seek to destroy her prosperity so much as those

And to the manner born."

The Legislative proceedings record nothing but a warfare waged upon our best citizens with all the mendacity and malignity of fiends, who labor in the interests of their master with demonic love. These men do not anticipate, as they do not desire, a prosperous and peaceful solution of our present difficulties. Born amidst the throes and convulsions of the State, and nourished by the diseased and disordered condition of society, they desire to prolong their evil importance by anarchy and revolution.

We have heretofore published in full the Military Police Bill, introduced by the Reverend Welker. We give below the Sedition Act, presented by another warlike preacher, Reverend Blythe. This bill has been referred to a select committee, and will doubtless pass in this or some similar shape. These men are indeed organizing hell in North Carolina:

AN ACT TO PUNISH CONSPIRACY, SEDITION, INSUBORDINATION, REBELLION, &c.

WHEREAS, There are believed to exist in this State treasonable and seditious designs, the purpose of which is to create and sustain a spirit of insubordination to the State and National Government, and by means of such insubordination to overthrow the Government of the State, and to subvert the freedom of elections and of speech; and whereas, there are in many parts of the State locations where the freedom of the press is being excited, and a spirit of insubordination, sedition and insurrection against the National Union and the State Government of North Carolina, and whereas, it is the duty of the Legislature to protect the people of this State from the horrors of war, violence and civil strife, and to suppress the evil which exists during the rebellion,

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of North Carolina, That if any person, by speaking, writing, printing, or in any other manner, shall endeavor to excite, contemn, or encourage, any spirit of rebellion, sedition, insubordination or resistance to the State Government of North Carolina, or to the due administration of the laws thereof, or to the Government of the United States or any law thereof, or to oppose for three years or more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 2. That if any person shall attempt to prevent any citizen from voting his honest sentiment, or to compel him to vote against his sentiments in any election, or who shall leave his home and shall attempt in the night time, to intimidate, frighten, or alarm any peaceable citizen of the State, every such person, in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than twelve months nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 3. That if two or more persons shall conspire together to overthrow, to destroy, or to destroy by force the Government of the State of North Carolina, or to levy war against the Government of North Carolina, or to oppose for three years or more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 4. That if any person shall incite, set on foot, assist or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the State, or the laws of the State, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, each and every person so offending in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than three years nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 5. That if any person shall, on foot, assist or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the State, or the laws of the State, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, each and every person so offending in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than three years nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 6. That if any person shall, on foot, assist or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the State, or the laws of the State, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, each and every person so offending in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than three years nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 7. That if any person shall, on foot, assist or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the State, or the laws of the State, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, each and every person so offending in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than three years nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 8. That if any person shall, on foot, assist or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the State, or the laws of the State, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, each and every person so offending in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than three years nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 9. That if any person shall, on foot, assist or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the State, or the laws of the State, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, each and every person so offending in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than three years nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 10. That if any person shall, on foot, assist or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the State, or the laws of the State, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, each and every person so offending in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than three years nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 11. That if any person shall, on foot, assist or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the State, or the laws of the State, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, each and every person so offending in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than three years nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 12. That if any person shall, on foot, assist or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the State, or the laws of the State, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, each and every person so offending in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than three years nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 13. That if any person shall, on foot, assist or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the State, or the laws of the State, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, each and every person so offending in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than three years nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Section 14. That if any person shall, on foot, assist or engage in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the State, or the laws of the State, or shall give aid or comfort thereto, each and every person so offending in any of the ways aforesaid, shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment at hard labor for not less than three years nor more than ten years, and be fined not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Headquarters of the Department of the South, has undersigned hereby relinquishes the command of the troops in the late Second Military District.

The officers of the general staff on duty at the Headquarters of that District will report to the Major-General commanding the Department of the South.

In relinquishing this command, the undersigned takes this occasion to acknowledge the aid and fidelity with which the officers and men have performed the difficult and delicate duties committed to them, and to express his thanks to the commanders of Posts and the officers of the staff for their active and zealous co-operation, and to all, his warmest wishes for their welfare and happiness.

ED. R. S. CANBY,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. A.

Official: LOUIS V. CAZARET,
Aid-de-Camp, Act'g Asst Adj't Gen'l.

Let Us Have Peace!

In the face of the most significant and solemn warnings, the Radical majority of our Legislature, instigated by the Devil and fatally bent on mischief, seem determined to arm one class of our citizens against the other. With a majority in the last election approaching twenty thousand votes; in control of the entire Executive and Judicial Departments of the government; in possession of two-thirds of the county civil organizations, and with every municipal corporation in the State under officers appointed by their Governor, and with a Constitution of their own framing and laws of their own making, they declare it absolutely necessary, beyond this, to arm their partisans for self-protection and to preserve the peace. The mere statement carries its refutation on its face. Nothing can be plainer than that the leaders desire to use these arms to intimidate voters and to stir up strife and disorder in the State.

At the late election, although there were not a tithe of the troops proposed now to be organized and armed in North Carolina, in the face of the numberless frauds at every ballot-box committed by the Radicals, there was not a single instance of disturbance throughout the length and breadth of the State. We have never yet heard of the slightest interference of Radical meetings and processions, nor of the least violence offered to any man, however offensive and incendiary may have been his conduct and his speeches. Our people have submitted to disfranchisement; have seen their governments torn down, and bastards, the offspring of Federal bayonets and Yankee impudence and negro ignorance, set up in their stead; have seen their well-known and well-beloved leaders banned and proscribed; are ready to respect the laws of this usurping government; have paid, and stand ready to pay, the taxes which have and may be levied upon the property of the State by mendicants now in office. For no good purposes, therefore, can these men find excuse to place arms in the hands of their partisans. The white citizens have many causes for irritation and excitement, which they have wonderfully confined within peaceful bounds in order to secure the general good, and it is the height of folly and madness for these causes to be increased beyond the point of reasonable and safe endurance.

It was to be hoped that our Governor and Legislature would heed the lessons which cotemporary governments are teaching them. Compared to Louisiana and Tennessee, the quiet condition of North Carolina is to be envied. The outrages and crimes which occasionally occur in our State, and shock the ear with their horrid recitals, have their foundation for purposes of plunder, into which ill-will has led negroes in certain portions of the State. But in the States named, secret political societies upon the one side have given life to those upon the other. The Union League has given birth to the K. W. C. in Louisiana, and the Ku-Klux in Tennessee, and assassinations and violence, lawlessness and disorder have been the result, until there is almost open warfare.

In Louisiana, with at least more show of reason than with us, it has been proposed to arm the militia, but the Radical carpet-bag Governor opposes and desires to avert this movement. "The organization of the militia," he says in his communication to the President, "is of very questionable expediency, inasmuch as it will be, under the present excited state of mind, one of political party armed to support the Government against the other." He closes his appeal for aid by a recommendation that all secret political societies be broken up, which he regards as the source of all the trouble.

With us there are no secret political societies, except those in the interest of Radicals. Loyal Leagues among the negroes, and Heroes of America among the whites, constitute the only oath-bound, secret societies in North Carolina. Their influences are working much evil, and will yet be the fruitful source of much more. Unarmed, they have not been able to provoke riots and bloodshed; but place arms in their hands, and protect them by laws and a biased Judiciary and Executive, and how long will peace be maintained?

Elsewhere we publish an abridged account of a meeting of ex-Confederate officers in Tennessee, in the interest of good order and quiet, and to prevent, if possible, the arming of the militia, as has been recommended by Brownlow. The members of the Legislature agreed that the arming of the militia was attended with many dangers, as had been shown the year before. The conference has done much good and there is a hope of a peaceful solution of their troubles. The latest advice represent even Brownlow as enlisted in the cause of peace, and there is even some hope of his recommending the enfranchisement of the eighty thousand whites now denied the right of suffrage, which is the pregnant cause of all the trouble.

Without the causes which operate in those States, in the midst of great excitement, unattended as yet with violence or outbreak, when the best portion of our people are chafing under insults and humiliations; when strangers are usurping places of honor and profit, destroying the most highly cherished institutions, and trampling upon the most sacred feelings of the heart, it is gravely proposed to arm and equip six thousand men, uncontrolled except by their own licentious will, and responsible only to those whose evil enemies they are. These men who thus blast the prospects of peace and inaugurate war

in North Carolina, write upon the records of the State their own infamy—and write it in blood.

Restoration in Tennessee.

The Nashville Union of the 2d instant has an extended and interesting account of the proceedings of ex-Confederate general officers at a meeting held in Nashville, and at an interview with the military committee of the Legislature on the 1st instant, at which the following ex-Confederate officers were present: Generals N. B. Forrest, B. F. Cheatham, G. J. Pillow, B. R. Johnson, S. R. Anderson, W. B. Bate, George Maney, George W. Gordon, W. A. Quarles, Thomas B. Smith, G. G. Dibrell, John C. Brown and Joseph B. Palmer. At the meeting of officers held preliminary to the interview with the military committee, Gen. Forrest was chosen chairman, and a memorial to the Legislature was adopted and signed by all the officers, at which it was emphatically denied that they sought the overthrow of the State government, nor did they believe that there was any organization in Tennessee, public or secret, which has such a purpose, and pledging all their influence to uphold and support the laws and aid the authorities in their execution. At the same time they respectfully suggested that a removal of the political disabilities resting upon so many of the citizens of Tennessee would heal the wounds of the State and restore the Union and prosperity of the people. In their interview with the military committee the same sentiments were reiterated in speeches by Gen. Brown, Gen. Forrest, Col. Roche, Gen. Cheatham, Gen. Quarles and other officers. Col. Posser, of the military committee, made a speech, expressing confidence in the honest intentions of the ex-Confederate officers, but said that lawless conduct had been committed which must be suppressed, by moderate means if possible, but, if necessary, by extreme measures. At the same time he added:

"As soldiers, gentlemen, you are sincere. I know you as sincere, your fidelity and courage displayed on a hundred battle-fields, which, however much it may be regretted, is now a part of the common history of our country. I believe that you are sincere. I am certain that I express the sentiment of this committee and the 'people' in saying that the only way to heal the wounds of the State is to remove the political disabilities of those who have been the victims of the war. The result of enfranchising these people desired by all, and the sooner this is done the better. If the people in this State will assist in carrying out this policy, it will not be long before the difficulty in the way of enfranchisement will be removed."

Similar sentiments were expressed by Capt. Williams, of the military committee. If a like spirit should control the action of the Legislature, it would be auspicious of the happiest results. It is inevitable that such a state of things as that in Tennessee, begotten of the passions and opportunities of war, cannot be permanent in any civilized community accustomed to freedom.

The consideration of what is right and just to other men will assert itself in honest republican minds, and lead to the removal of inequalities brought about by those who took advantage of times of public trouble and peril to effect the exclusion of those who differed from them politically from the common and immortal functions of American citizens.

The following is a copy of the Memorial which has been referred to the Legislature:

THE MEMORIAL.

To the Honorable Legislature of Tennessee, now in extraordinary session:

The right of petition and remonstrance being conceded by all classes in this country, and feeling, as we do, a deep solicitude for the peace and quiet of our great and glorious State, and belonging to that class in Tennessee who are regarded by some of its authorities as hostile to its present organization, we yield to a sense of duty, and respectfully submit to you the following memorial, as the result of our view of the means that may avert the precipitation of the crisis, which is acknowledged by all to be impending. We believe that the right of petition and remonstrance is a right which belongs to all citizens, and that the peace of the State does not require the organization of a military force by your honorable body, and respectfully submit that such a measure might more strongly tend to bring about and promote collisions than to conserve the harmony and good order of the country. And we believe that the danger to the peace of the State is apprehended from that class of the community with which we have no quarrel, and that the only way to maintain the peace and order of the State with whatever influence we possess, is to uphold the laws, and aid the constituted authorities in their execution, trusting that a recognition of these sentiments will produce the enactment of such laws as will remove all irritating causes now disturbing society. We believe that the only way to maintain the peace and order of the State is to uphold the laws, and aid the constituted authorities in their execution, trusting that a recognition of these sentiments will produce the enactment of such laws as will remove all irritating causes now disturbing society.

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Respectfully, your obedient servants,
N. B. Forrest,
William B. Bate,
John C. Brown,
George Maney,
George W. Gordon,
W. A. Quarles,
Thomas B. Smith,
G. G. Dibrell,
Joseph B. Palmer,
Buelord R. Johnson,
G. J. Pillow,
S. R. Anderson,
W. B. Bate,
G. G. Dibrell,
George Maney.

Nashville, August 1, 1868.

OUR RALEIGH CORRESPONDENCE.

The Infamous Legislature and the Police

Argo, of Orange.—The Black Prince and his Sable Highness.—A Villainous and Dangerous Legislation.—Imminent Peril of the State.—Proposed Visit of the Legislature to Morehead City.—North Carolina Railroad and the Democratic Conviction.

Dear Journal!—So far as the "House of Representatives" is concerned, the damnable iniquity has been consummated! The Police-Militia Bill goes to the Senate this morning, after having, on yesterday, finally passed the other branch of the "infamous Legislature." Let that be its souvenir of shame for all time to come!

Perhaps it will be best for me to give a brief resume of the proceedings relative to this piratical measure since my last communication.

On Tuesday, when the original bill (a copy of that introduced by the late Prase-God-Bare-bones Walker in the Senate) came up in the House, Seymour, the nonsectarian Little Carpe-bagger who hails from Craven,

and who was assigned, in caucus, the leadership for the occasion, moved a substitute, and at once, with a meanness of which such a party alone could be guilty, moved the previous question on its adoption. [Nota Bene: You just ought to see this man Seymour. He is the impersonation of carpet-bagism. Assuming, without brains—impudent, without a scintilla of personal or mental recommendation—he has all the noisy and annoying snappishness of a fice. His utterance is nasal and drawing, and his manner clownish. His first gesture, on rising to address the House, is to clap his hands *a posteriori*, as if in search of an idea there.] Under the operation of the previous question, the call for which was, of course, sustained by the abject slaves of Holden and Caucus, the bill was rushed through two readings, in reckless defiance of the constitutional requisition that all bills involving appropriations shall be read three several times on three several days. An effort was made to press it through its third and final reading, and nothing, but the lateness of the hour and the filibustering tactics of the opposition prevented its being done.

On Wednesday, prompt and early, the previous question was again applied. In vain did the opposers of the bill ask for the short space of one hour in which to discuss it—in vain did they protest against the inefable villain who sought to stifle debate. The last word cracked, the cringing hounds crouched beneath it, and the bill was passed. Here it was that Argo, the wily and talented young member from Orange, sprung a device upon them, which, in their eager malignity, they had overlooked. Voting with the majority for that express purpose, no sooner had the Black Prince proposed to curtail the debate, than he announced the result of the vote, than Argo at once rose and moved its re-consideration. This, of course, opened the long-contested and shamelessly-denied field of discussion. Baffled and mortified at this unexpected defeat of their baseness, they consented to an adjournment until yesterday—Mr. Argo on the floor.

Well, on yesterday the question came up on Mr. Argo's motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill passed its third reading. It would have done your heart good to have heard the successive exhortations which the infamously scheming and still more infamous authors and supporters—from Holden down to the most dirty, swilling, contemptible scoundrel that licks the dirt from his boots and calls it *good*—received. In turn, Messrs. Argo, Dorrism, Gating, Hodnett, Davis and Sinclair laid bare the atrocities of the measure, its maintenance, its execution, its effect, its bayonet, the low and cowardly revenge which prompted it, the craven and disgusting fear which instigated it, and the fearful consequences to which it must lead. All the while Holden and several of his pimps were in the lobbies, strengthening the timid, overawing the refractory and urging the *agitation*. But when the Black Prince descended to the floor, and in the name of his sable and paternal highness, commanded allegiance, the motion to reconsider was laid on the table—and thus ended the history of this measure of blood in the House, at least for the present.

The right of petition and remonstrance so long upon your patience with this narrative, but it is right for your readers to have the facts. I know that, with your fearless pen, you will denounce this *awful* conspiracy as it deserves. I will send you, promptly, a copy of the bill, that you may see its terrible portion, and that the program is sought to be carried out. Poor, suffering old North Carolina—but not so poor in spirit or so crushed by suffering, but that she will find some means of escape from the yoke sought to be placed upon her by an apostate, degraded son, and pined on bayonets, placed in the hands of an alien and mercenary horde of infamous Yankee adventurers!

I have already made this letter so long that I must defer mention of other matters, which claim my attention, until my next. The Legislature will probably adjourn on the 17th, though an invitation is issued for a special session on the 21st. A head City—an invitation from that previous brace of Railroad Presidents, E. R. Stanly and the man who hunted Confederate deserters with dogs. It would be well if the meridian of Raleigh could be purged of their presence about the time of the Democratic Convention. Let the money go to the hands of the old owners and wash off—if all the waters of Neptune can accomplish it some of their filth; and let the good and true men remain behind, exchange greetings with their brethren who will be here in force on Thursday next, and receive from them the plaudits. "Well do, good friends, and servants!"

Speaking of Railroads and the Democratic Convention, I hear, on all sides, general indignation at the puny malice of Wm. A. Smith, the so-called President of the North Carolina Railroad, in his effort to prevent a large attendance here on the occasion for the coming year. The Convention will be disappointed. The Convention will be the largest political gathering ever held in the State, and the citizens, I am informed, are making ample arrangements for the accommodation of all who may attend. But *adieu*.

OUR HALIFAX CORRESPONDENCE.

A Legal Jail Delivery—Negro Population—Vagabondism and Crime—Judge Mitchell—Manslaughter—Details of the Crime—The Wade Ditcher Murder—The Evidence—Life Among the Negroes.

HALIFAX, N. C., August 7, 1868.

Messrs. Editors: "Variety is the spice of life," and a few paragraphs in your columns, wholly disconnected with politics, may not be disagreeable to your readers. During the whole week, I suppose not less than one hundred able-bodied negro men were lounging in the Court grounds, besides a large number of women, girls and boys. These people are, naturally, vagrants.

The judges charged the jury, among other matters, that if they believed the negro men, the prisoners were guilty of murder. The jury retired, and, in a short time, brought in a verdict of guilty as to all the prisoners.

This case may be worth the space given to it as an illustration of how the negro men are kept in the Court grounds, and General Ransom since the discovery of the murder, and yet, although he had used all the exertions that diligence and honesty could suggest, although many other active citizens aided him; although nearly every negro man and woman in Weldon had been examined, and although the whole tragedy was enacted in the very heart of Weldon, not one witness could be found to testify as to the throwing of the body into the River, and only one could be found to testify as to the main facts. And this, too, when the "old hotel" was at the time of the occurrence inhabited by negroes from all over the country.

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lice force "for the preservation of law and order. "Oh, shame, where is thy blush!"

Judge Mitchell was detained by severe indisposition, and did not reach Halifax until Monday night. Tuesday was devoted to the Grand Jury. Wednesday two negroes were disposed of—one submitted to a verdict of manslaughter for the killing of his messmate. The State asked a verdict of murder against the other. The evidence being, that on returning home at night, very drunk, he insisted on approaching himself the food which his wife designed for their children, who had not had any dinner. The wife remonstrated, and that the prisoner replied that he would "soon fix her." He then took down his loaded gun off the rack, his wife being then seated, in a short time he fired, the lead entering above the eye of his little daughter, who was standing behind her mother, and she died almost immediately. The prisoner's counsel insisted that the discharge was accidental, and the Jury, taking this merciful view of the matter, found him guilty of manslaughter.

The Jury was composed of nine blacks and three whites. It was with some difficulty that the blacks were persuaded to join in the verdict, their voice being for "guilty of murder."

On Thursday three negroes, to-wit: Augustus Baker, James Thomas and George Johnson, *alias* Dayline, were put upon their trial for the murder of Wade Ditcher, a negro, at Weldon, on the night of 23d of May last.

The prejudice against the prisoners on the part of both colors was very great, so great, indeed, or rather so atrocious was the murder deemed, that General Ransom was retained by some of the citizens around Weldon to aid in prosecuting the case, and he appeared, with General Cox, for the State. The special jury of one hundred men was exhausted without getting a jury. At length a jury was empanelled, composed of eight whites and four blacks.

It seems that on Saturday night, 23d of May last, the prisoners, Baker, Thomas and Ditcher, the deceased, were playing cards in Gus Baker's room, at the "old hotel" in Weldon. This old hotel was occupied by negroes, and had been so occupied for some time. In a short time words were heard, when Baker remarked, "Boys, let us have no fuss here; let us go down to the old dining-room." Thereupon they went out, came round to and on the front porch, and immediately at the front door of the "old hotel," you did not see that money fairly." The latter replied, "Ole Gus, before you get this money back you must kill me." Thereupon Baker struck him with something that had a handle, and the deceased fell with his head on the door-sill. Thomas took the same instrument and struck him again, and Bayline, whom the witness put on the scene at this juncture for the first time, said, "I owe him a tap too," and struck him with the same instrument. Baker then told them to search his pockets, which was done. The prisoners then dragged the deceased, who was yet alive, through the whole length of the entry and into the dining-room, where the witness lost sight of them.

The above statement was deposed to by one witness only, a negro woman of very bad character, who, it was admitted, had suppressed the facts deposed to by her of the actual killing in her testimony before the Court's inquest.

But the State proved besides, that this man, the deceased, was last seen in company, on Saturday night, with the prisoner Thomas. That blood was found in Baker's room, on the steps leading out of his room into an alley way—through the alley way into the old dining room of the hotel, and on the floor of the dining room, as if a bleeding body had lain there. That a very loud quarrel and cursing was heard about 3 o'clock Sunday morning, when it ceased, that these men were seen going towards the river and soon returned. The State further proved that the body of Ditcher was found in the Roanoke river on the Wednesday following the night of the alleged murder; that the body had several bruises upon it, and one wound between the eyes, as if given by an axe or hammer, and sufficient to produce death.

Some minor points were also proved by the State—the defence did not introduce any evidence to the contrary.

Ditcher was a fisherman. The State insisted that when the three men were seen going towards the river, it was to entice Ditcher's canoe, in order to allow suspicion on account of his absence. That the body lay in the dining room all day Sunday, and was not taken out until Sunday night, and further, that the witness as to the actual killing, had told the truth.

The defence insisted that if the homicide had been committed at all, it was committed during the bad and very angry quarrel deposed to by the witness for the State, and if then committed the jury were at liberty to enter a killing upon a fight arising from a sudden quarrel, and that the killing was committed would not be murder, but manslaughter. The defence further insisted, that the principal witness did not tell the truth, for the reason that there were no marks of blood at the place where she deposed the homicide had been perpetrated, and no marks of blood in the entry through which she deposed the body had been dragged.

The case was opened for the prisoners by Wm. B. Pope, Esq., who was followed by Messrs. Ransom and Cox, for the State, who were followed by Messrs. Conigland and Solomon, for the prisoners.

The judges charged the jury, among other matters, that if they believed the negro men, the prisoners were guilty of murder. The jury retired, and, in a short time, brought in a verdict of guilty as to all the prisoners.

This case may be worth the space given to it as an illustration of how the negro men are kept in the Court grounds, and General Ransom since the discovery of the murder, and yet, although he had used all the exertions that diligence and honesty could suggest, although many other active citizens aided him; although nearly every negro man and woman in Weldon had been examined, and although the whole tragedy was enacted in the very heart of Weldon, not one witness could be found to testify as to the throwing of the body into the River, and only one could be found to testify as to the main facts. And this, too, when the "old hotel" was at the time of the occurrence inhabited by negroes from all over the country.

During the whole week, I suppose not less than one hundred able-bodied negro men were lounging in the Court grounds, besides a large number of women, girls and boys. These people are, naturally, vagrants.

The judges charged the jury, among other matters, that if they believed the negro men, the prisoners were guilty of murder. The jury retired, and, in a short time, brought in a verdict of guilty as to all the prisoners.

THE PRESIDENCY.

Governor Seymour's Letter of Acceptance of the Democratic Nomination—Endorsement of the Platform—Criticism of Congress, etc.

UTICA, August 4, 1868.

GENTLEMEN: When in the city of New York, on the 11th ultimo, in the presence of a vast multitude, on behalf of the National Democratic Convention, you have decreed to its unanimous nomination, and as candidate for the office of President of the United States, I stated I had no words "adequate to express my gratitude for the good will and kindness which that body had shown to me." Its nomination was unexpected and unexpected. It was my ambition to take an active part in which I am now excluded in the great struggle going on for the restoration of good government, of peace and prosperity to our country, but I have been caught up by the overwhelming tide which is bearing on us to a great political change, and I find myself unable to resist its pressure. You have given me the honor of the nomination, and I have delayed the more formal act of communicating to you in writing what I then publicly said for the purpose of seeing what light the action of Congress would throw upon the interests of the country. Its acts since the adjournment of the convention show an alarm lest a change of political power will give to the people what they ought to have—a clear statement of what has been done with the money drawn from them during the past eight years. Thoughtful men feel that there have been wrongs in the financial management which have been kept from the public knowledge, and that the people have been misled by the allied itself with military power, which is to be brought